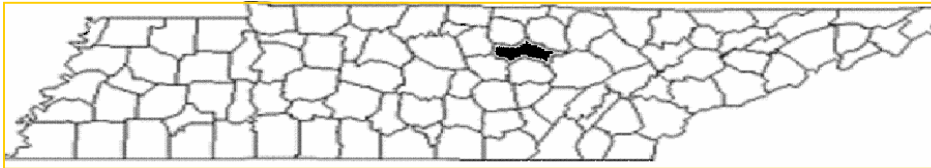


The Status of Women in Putnam County



STATUS OF WOMEN IN PUTNAM COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW

INSIDE

Overview	1
County Summary	2
Overall County Rankings	3
About the Council and this Report	4

INDICATOR	DATA	COUNTY RANKING
		(of 95 Counties)
COMPOSITE EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS INDEX	45.20	39
Women's Annual Earnings	\$21,001	49
Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings (Wage Gap)	71.8%	47
Women's Labor Force Participation Rate	45.3%	18
Female Unemployment Rate	5.0%	22
Women in Managerial or Professional Occupations	21.4%	90
COMPOSITE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY INDEX	37.88	25
Businesses that are Women-Owned (% of total)	26.2%	22
Women with a Four-Year College Degree (%)	11.5%	32
Women With a High School Diploma (%)	73.6%	29
Female High School Dropout Rate	5.1%	32
Women with any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage (%)	87.6%	80
Women Earning Incomes Below the Poverty Level (%)	16.4%	57
Single Female-Headed Households Living In Poverty (%)	8.5%	35
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 10-19)	27.5	16

Report Overview: This publication on the Status of Women in Putnam County is part of a statewide publication of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, *The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties, 2004*. The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under TCA § 4-50-100, et seq. by the One

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

PUTNAM

Women have taken remarkable strides towards economic equality, from education to earnings to political participation. Women are now pursuing goals such as business ownership, leadership roles in their careers, and election to state and federal political office. However, obstacles still exist in the climb toward equality. Nationwide, equal numbers of men and women are obtaining four-year college degrees; however, these gains have not translated into pay equity. The average college-educated woman working full time earns \$44,200 a year compared to \$61,800 for men in the same category. Women are still under-represented in many of the highest paying, fastest growing sectors of the economy. Helping women break into these traditionally male-dominated areas like computer science, engineering, mathematics and technology, as well as all skilled-labor positions, gives women tools for self-sufficiency and understanding of their personal capabilities, and these advances are good for the economy of our counties and of our state.

Employment and Earnings

The employment and earnings index includes data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of women in managerial or professional occupations.

- ◇ Putnam County women have median earnings of \$21,001 annually while their male counterparts have median earnings of \$29,243.
- ◇ 45.3% of women participate in the workforce, the labor force also consists of 45.3% women.
- ◇ The female unemployment rate is 5.0% in Putnam County, the same as the rate for the county overall.
- ◇ Putnam County ranks higher than only 5 other counties in percent of women in managerial or professional occupations. Of working women 21.4% are employed in management or in professional jobs while 28.7% of all employed persons in the county work in such occupations.

Economic Autonomy

The economic autonomy index includes information on educational attainment, business ownership and general quality of life issues.

- ◇ 73.6% of women in Putnam County have a high school diploma while 72.6% of all county residents have a high-school level degree.
- ◇ 11.5% of Putnam County women have a four-year college degree while 20.2% of all county residents have such a degree. Though slightly higher percentages of women have high school diplomas in the county, significantly higher percentages of men have four-year college degrees.
- ◇ Over 12 percent of women in Putnam County have no form of health insurance coverage and 16.4% of women earn income below the poverty level.
- ◇ Though 10.3% of families live in poverty in Putnam County, 30.6% of families with a female householder and no husband present are in poverty.
- ◇ Putnam ranks in the top 25 counties for percent of businesses owned by women. However, though 25.6% of businesses are female-owned, women-owned businesses account for just 4.5% of income and receipts from private firms in the county.
- ◇ Women represent 51.2% of eligible voters in the county. Around 20% of elected county officials are women.

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

PUTNAM

		Putnam County	Rank of Put- nam County	Highest Ranking County
Earnings	Median Annual Earnings for FT Females	\$21,001	49	Williamson: \$32,243
	Wage Gap	71.8%	47	Davidson: 82.1%
Employment	Female Labor Force Participa- tion Rate	45.3%	18	Rutherford: 50.9%
	Female Unemployment Rate	5.0%	22	Pickett: 1.5%
	Percent of Employed Females in Management, Prof., and Related Occupations	21.4%	90	Anderson: 44.6%
	Women Owned Business % of Total	26.2%	22	Moore: 63.3%
Education	% of Females with 4 Year Degree or Better	11.5%	32	Williamson: 39.5%
	% of Females with High School Diploma (or equiva- lency)	73.6%	29	Williamson: 90.6%
	Female Dropout Rate	5.1%	32	Clay/Pickett: 0.0%
Lifestyles	% of Women with any kind of Health Insurance Coverage	87.6%	80	Montgomery/ Williamson: 100%
	% of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	16.4%	57	Williamson: 5.4%
	% of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	8.5%	35	Williamson: 2.5%
	Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	27.5	16	Williamson: 1.2%

ABOUT THE COUNCIL AND THIS REPORT

Putnam County

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percentage of women in managerial occupations.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of households headed by a single female, single female headed households living in poverty, percentage of women with health insurance, the high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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Visit the Tennessee Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES	
Earnings and Employment	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Earnings)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Employed Females in Management, Professional, and Related Occupations	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Economic Autonomy	
Women-owned Business, Percent of total	Economic Census, 1997
Percent of Females w/4yr Degree or Better	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Females with a High School Diploma (or equivalency)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Female Dropout Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of Women with Any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Percent of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Percent of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S Census Bureau, 2000
Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002
Voter Demographics and Elected County Officials	National Association of Counties